



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
2005**

**Grade 7
Reading**

Reading

The captain ordered the sailor to be placed in the hold until the ship reached port.

- 1 Which sentence uses the word hold as it is used in the box?
- A. The singer tried to hold the note longer, but her voice broke.
 - B. The wrestler broke the hold and won the match.
 - C. The pirate was confined to the hold for five days.
 - D. The teacher did not hold with cheating.

The old _____ charged the hunter and slashed him with its tusks.

- 2 Which word belongs in the blank in the sentence?
- A. bore
 - B. board
 - C. boar
 - D. bored

Read the following poem about a “false alarm” and then answer the questions that follow.

False Alarm

Like wild fire,
Burning red and
Orange-gold,
Autumn
5 Licks at summer’s green—
Jumps
From leaf to
Leaf
And tree to
10 Tree
Until the woods are
Ablaze and
Crackling with color—

Squirrels,
15 In a frenzy,
Scurry through hickory
And oak,
Plumed tails billowing
Like smoke—

20 The Ranger
In the lookout tower
Spots the blaze—
But wise to Autumn’s
Ways,
25 Reports another season’s
False alarm.

—Beverly McLoughland

3 In the first stanza, what is “Like wild fire”?

- A. the green of summer
- B. the lookout tower
- C. the summer squirrels
- D. the leaves of fall

4 In lines 6 through 8, what “Jumps From leaf to Leaf”?

- A. autumn’s color
- B. fire
- C. summer’s green
- D. woods

5 In line 15, “In a frenzy” means that the squirrels are extremely

- A. cautious.
- B. worried.
- C. greedy.
- D. active.

6 What do the last two lines of the poem mean?

- A. The ranger is aware of the danger of forest fires.
- B. The ranger does not understand autumn’s fiery colors.
- C. The ranger has spotted a fire but does not report it.
- D. The ranger recognizes autumn’s fiery colors.

7 Explain why “False Alarm” is a good title for this poem. Use specific examples from the poem to support your answer.

Cooking can be enjoyable and rewarding. Read the recipe and then answer the questions that follow.

Fast Chicken Tandoori

PREPARATION TIME: 20 minutes or more

MAKES: 4 servings

There are two ways to think of chicken tandoori. Strictly defined, it is yogurt-marinated* chicken cooked in a *tandoor*, a clay oven of central Asian origin that is closely associated with Indian cooking and often used to bake bread. But you can also think of chicken tandoori as grilled or broiled chicken marinated in yogurt and spices. That's what we have here—a lightning-quick, really easy tandoori-style dish that begins with a boneless, skinless chicken breast and “marinates” for just a few minutes.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

For the sake of speed, the chicken can sit in the yogurt mixture for as little as 5 minutes, but a soak of about an hour allows a little more of the flavor to permeate the flesh. After a few hours, however, the meat just begins to become mushy in texture.

WITH MINIMAL EFFORT

The yogurt mixture is so creamy and delicious that, even in grilling season, I like to double the quantity and broil the chicken, so I can use the cooked sauce and meat drippings to top cooked rice.

1 cup plain yogurt
1 teaspoon minced ginger
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon medium-to-hot paprika
1 teaspoon ground coriander

Juice of 1 lime
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 ½ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts
Minced fresh cilantro

- 1 Preheat the broiler, start a hot charcoal or wood fire, or preheat a gas grill to the maximum. Set the rack 2 to 4 inches from the heat source. Combine the yogurt, ginger, garlic, paprika, coriander, half the lime juice, and some salt and pepper in a large bowl. Stir the chicken into the yogurt mixture and marinate for 5 to 60 minutes, as time allows.
- 2 TO BROIL THE CHICKEN, line a baking sheet with aluminum foil to facilitate cleanup. To broil, put the chicken breasts on the baking sheet, bone (rough) side up; reserve any marinade that does not cling to the breasts. Broil for 3 to 4 minutes, or until lightly browned. Turn and spoon the remaining marinade over the chicken. Broil on the skin (smooth) side for another 3 to 4 minutes, or until lightly browned.
- TO GRILL THE CHICKEN, simply grill for 3 to 4 minutes per side, or until the chicken browns and is cooked through, brushing with the marinade from time to time.
- 3 Garnish with cilantro and serve, spooning the cooked marinade over the chicken and sprinkling with the remaining lime juice.

SERVE WITH Easy Rice, rice pilaf, or Indian-style bread;
Simple Green Salad

* marinated: soaked in sauce

- 8 In step 2, the word reserve means to
- A. eliminate.
 - B. set aside.
 - C. throw away.
 - D. exclude.
- 9 What ingredient is used immediately before serving the chicken?
- A. garlic
 - B. cilantro
 - C. coriander
 - D. ginger
- 10 According to the recipe, a *tandoor* is used for
- A. frying.
 - B. broiling.
 - C. baking.
 - D. grilling.
- 11 According to the recipe, this meal is
- A. complicated but worth it.
 - B. inexpensive and nutritious.
 - C. expensive but healthy.
 - D. quick and simple to prepare.
- 12 How does the organization of this recipe help the cook? Explain your answer by using information from the recipe.

Acknowledgments

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Grade 7 Reading Released Item Information

Released Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Content Strand¹	WV	WV	LA	LA	WV	LA	LA	WV	II	II	IA	II
GLE Code	6-3	6-3	6-6	6-6	6-3	6-5	6-5	6-3	6-7	6-7	6-8	6-7
Depth of Knowledge Code	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	3
Item Type²	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR
Answer Key	C	C	D	A	D	D		B	B	C	D	
Total Possible Points	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4

¹Content Strand: WV = Word ID/Vocabulary, LI = Literary/Initial Understanding, LA = Literary/Analysis & Interpretation, II = Informational/Initial Understanding, IA = Informational/Analysis & Interpretation

²Item Type: MC = Multiple-Choice, CR = Constructed Response



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
Support Materials
2005**

**Grade 7
Reading**

**NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING**

- 7 Explain why “False Alarm” is a good title for this poem. Use specific examples from the poem to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of why “False Alarm” is a good title for this poem. Response includes relevant and specific examples from the poem.
3	Response provides an explanation of why “False Alarm” is a good title for this poem. Response includes some examples from the poem.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how the poet compares autumn to a wildfire or a false alarm. Response uses limited examples from the poem.
1	Response is vague/minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	no response

Training Notes:

Throughout the poem, the poet compares the spread of autumn and autumn color to a fire in the forest. The color spreads through the trees from branch to branch the way a fire would. The Ranger is in the lookout tower watching for fire. As the Ranger looks for fire from the tower, he thinks he spots it but he is only seeing the fiery colors of autumn. Although the woods may appear to be on fire, they are not; therefore, the alarm is false.

Specific details from the poem that explain the title include:

- “Like wild fire”
- “Burning red and/Orange-gold”
- “Ablaze and/Crackling with color”
- “Spots the blaze”
- “Reports another season’s/False alarm”
- The squirrel in the woods, anxious and with a tail like plume of smoke

NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 4

"False Alarm" is a good title for this poem because the poet is comparing autumn to a forest fire. In the poem it says, "Burning red and orange-gold which could be a fire but it is really the leaves. Also, "Squirrels in a frenzy, scurrying through hickory and oak," which could be squirrels running from a fire or them collecting food for the winter. Also the ranger spots the blaze, meaning the colors of the trees, but he knows they are trees. "Reports another season's false alarm," meaning the trees look so much like fire they could be confused as one.

The response thoroughly explains how the title relates to the content of the poem and includes specific examples from the poem.

SCORE POINT 3

I think "False Alarm" is a good title for this story because the leaves look like a burning fire, but the leaves are not. When the poet describes the colors of the leaves, it sounds like the colors look like fire. The leaves variation of color jumps from tree to tree. When the ranger sees the so called "fire", he knows it's only the leaves changing color.

The response provides an explanation of the poem and the title, with some details and support.

NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 2

I think that false alarm is a good title for this poem because it is really on the topic. I think it is a good title because she is comparing autumn colors and a fire to each other. It is a good title because it tells the truth. She has written that a fire is like autumn and all the trees. The crackling word in the poem is like a fire. This poem connects to like a fire poem.

The response provides a partial explanation of the fire and the title.

NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 1

false alarm is a good name for
this poem because the poet
is comparing the different
color leaves to a forest
fire.

The response is vague and minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

I think it's a good title because, it describes
every thing that basically False Alarms can
be about and the things that the author
gave us is not every thing but it's close
to every thing.

The response does not address the question.

**NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING**

- 12 How does the organization of this recipe help the cook? Explain your answer by using information from the recipe.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook. Response includes relevant information from the recipe.
3	Response provides an explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook. Response includes some information from the recipe.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook. Response uses limited information from the recipe.
1	Response is vague/minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	no response

Training Notes:

There are several ways in which the organization of the recipe helps the cook:

- The recipe includes preparation time.
- Steps are included, are in order, and are easy to follow.
- Helpful hints are given in the sidebar.
- The time each step takes is included.
- The ingredients are listed together in one place.
- Different cooking options are given.
- Serving suggestions are provided.

SCORE POINT 4

With the headings or helpful tips, the cook can easily just look back and reread something, instead of having to go through the entire recipe. It also tells you how long it takes to make, which helps if you have a time budget, and how many servings the meal is. That helps the cook by letting them know how much they have to cook. They also have subheadings in the cooking paragraphs, with "to broil chicken" or "to grill chicken." This helps the cook because they don't have to read all three paragraphs, they just skim the one they need to read.

The response provides a thorough explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook, with relevant information from the recipe.

SCORE POINT 3

The organization of this recipe helps the cook in many ways here are some of them

- Since the recipe is set up in sections the cook would not have to keep re-reading the recipe to find the next step

- It tells you the ingredients at the top of the page so you don't find them out as you're reading the recipe

- The page tells you about the chicken, and where it is made so the cook will know the type of food he's serving.

The response provides an explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook, with some examples.

NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 2

The organization of the recipe helps the cook in the way that it is layed out. It helps that it is in paragraph form and it helps that it has sub headings on two of the three paragraphs about background information. It also helps that it tells you the ingredients and supplies before it says how to cook it. It also numbers the different ways so it is distinctive from the rest.

The response provides a partial explanation of how the organization of the recipe helps the cook.

NECAP 2005 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 1

This organized recipe helps the cook because it shows the directions of different ways to make the tandoori chicken.

The response provides a minimal explanation.

SCORE POINT 0

I think every body need to learn how to cook, cooking is very good and if you don't know how to cook, you should start now.

The response does not address the question.